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10/651,303

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Lara Mehanna

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EXAMINER

SWEARINGEN, JEFFREY R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2445

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/01/2009

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

PATDOCTC@fr.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/651,303

Applicant(s)

MEHANNA ET AL.

Examiner

Jeffrey R. Swearingen

Art Unit

2445

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period **will** apply and **will** expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply **will**, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 January 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10, 12-59 and 62-101 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10, 12-59 and 62-101 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-10, 12-59, and 61-101 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.
2. Applicant's invention appears to be based around the launch of a specific web mapping application, but the specification and claims are unclear as to this web mapping application.
3. One of ordinary skill in the art is aware that CGI interfaces are commonly referred to as maps. Evidence of this is presented in US 2002/0059401, which refers to using "CGI and HTML image maps." Austin, US 2002/0059401, [0080] See further Yamamoto et al., US 2002/0138650, which discloses a URL launch item for a CGI map in [0301].
4. If this is not the intended reading of the mapping application, then Applicant should amend appropriate and present proper arguments about this feature in the response to this office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.
6. Claims 1-8, 11-22, 26-31, 34-45, 48-57, 60-68, 72-76, 78-88, and 91-101 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gross et al. (US

2004/0133564, now published as US 7,370,035) in view of Wolton et al. (US 2004/0030741).

7. In regard to claim 1, 41, 52, 53, 84, 95, Gross disclosed:

receiving, from a user, a character stream of one or more non-completion characters that indicate that additional characters may be received; [0037]

providing the character stream to a host that analyzes the character stream to generate results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest; [0040]

receiving, from the host, a first result that includes a first argument and an identifier of a first web application; [0040]

receiving, from the host, a second result that includes a second argument that is different from the first argument, and an identifier of a second web application, wherein the second web application differs from the first web application in function; [0040]

displaying the first result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the first result, the first argument and the identifier of the first web application; [0037]

displaying the second result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the second result, the second argument and the identifier of the second web application; and [0099]

enabling the user to select from among the first and second results. [0100]

8. Gross failed to disclose identifiers for various first and second web applications.

As best understood from the specification as originally filed by Applicant (page 8, line 29-page 9, line 4; page 14, lines 12-15; page 16, lines 11-17; page 18, lines 10-25), the identifiers for various first and second web applications are used to launch local client applets within a web browser to display web content. Wolton described a system for accessing content through the Internet. Wolton, [0058-0061]. Wolton stored the content locally, but is still applicable because Wolton performed the launching of applets through the web browser. Wolton, [0061]. Wolton listed an extensive selection of file type extension codes for a web browser to use. One of ordinary skill in the art is aware that the file type extension codes are indicators for the web browser to know which application to launch to display a specific type of file. See Wolton, [0738]-[0776]. An example is [0745], type=Shockwave/Flash file exts=swf. In this case, when the browser encounters a web file with an extension of .swf, the application knows to display this file using Macromedia's Shockwave Flash application. In [0764], type=video/quicktime exts=qt mov, when the browser encounters a file with extension .mov, the browser knows to launch Apple QuickTime to display a video in the browser.

9. Gross disclosed presenting search results to a user to select content to be viewed. Wolton taught the process for launching an appropriate application to display selected content based on the content's file extension. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to use the file associations of file type extensions taught in Wolton with the search results taught in Gross to enable a

user to access any content quickly and easily on their local browser by clicking on a file and launching the appropriate application.

10. In regard to claim 2, Gross further disclosed:

receiving the character stream of one or more non-completion characters comprises receiving a character stream of one or more non-completion characters that have been entered, by the user, to an address line of a web browser, [0097]

receiving the first result that includes the first argument and the identifier of the first web application comprises receiving a mapping result that includes a first location and an identifier of a web mapping application, and [0097]

displaying the first result in a manner enabling the user to perceive, before selecting the first result, the first argument and the identifier of the first web application comprises displaying the mapping result with an overview map that the user may select to display more detailed mapping information related to the overview map selected. [0098-0100]

See further Wolton, [0739]. CGI interfaces are also referred to as CGI "maps" by one of ordinary skill in the art.

11. In regard to claim 3, 42, 54, 85, Gross further disclosed:

receiving, from the user, one or more updates to the character stream;
[0097]

providing the updates to the host to permit the host to analyze the character stream using the updates to generate updated results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest; [0097]

receiving the updated results; and [0098]

displaying the updated results so that the user may select one of the updated results. [0100]

12. In regard to claim 4, Gross further disclosed:

providing all characters in the character stream. [0097]

13. In regard to claim 5, Gross further disclosed:

providing one or more characters in the character stream that have been received from the user since the character stream was last provided. [0097]

14. In regard to claim 6, 43, 55, 86, Gross further disclosed:

determining whether there is a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results, and, if there is a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results, analyzing the character stream to generate results that are responsive to the user's predicted interest. [0097-0098], [0105-0113]

15. In regard to claim 7, 44, 56, 87, Gross further disclosed:

delaying analyzing the character stream if there is not a sufficient amount of data in the character stream to generate accurate results. [0145]

16. In regard to claim 8, 45, 57, 88, Gross further disclosed:

waiting until a predetermined number of non-completion characters has been entered. [0142-0143]

17. In regard to claim 11, 60, Gross further disclosed:

analyzing the character stream to identify results that are more responsive to the predicted interest of the user. [0144]

18. In regard to claim 12, Gross further disclosed:

launching the first web application upon selection of the first result. [0100]

19. In regard to claim 13, Gross further disclosed:

launching the second web application upon selection of the second result. [0100]

20. In regard to claim 14, 61, Gross further disclosed:

polling multiple database to identify results from each of the multiple databases. [0116]

21. In regard to claim 15, 62, Gross further disclosed:

enabling the user to configure a web browser to control an operating mode of the web browser. [0141]

22. In regard to claim 16, 63, Gross further disclosed:

enabling the user to configure the web browser includes enabling the user to select one or more databases to be accessed. [0116]

23. In regard to claim 17, 64, Gross further disclosed:

enabling the user to configure the web browser includes enabling the user to control a format with which the results are displayed. [0118]

24. In regard to claims 18, 65, Gross further disclosed:

enabling the user to control a configuration for a drop down menu used to display the results. Figure 3A

25. In regard to claim 19, 66, 91, Gross further disclosed:

analyzing the character stream to determine a user profile; [0127]

storing the user profile; and [0127]

using the user profile to analyze subsequent character streams. [0130]

26. In regard to claim 20, Gross further disclosed:

displaying a map related to the character stream. [0127]

See further Wolton, [0739]. CGI interfaces are also referred to as CGI "maps" by one of ordinary skill in the art.

27. In regard to claim 21, 67, Gross further disclosed:

analyzing the character stream before providing the character stream to identify that map information is related to the character stream. [0153]

See further Wolton, [0739]. CGI interfaces are also referred to as CGI "maps" by one of ordinary skill in the art.

28. In regard to claim 22, 68, Gross further disclosed:

recognizing that a commonly used address term is present in the character stream. [0159]

29. In regard to claim 26, 49, 72, 92, Gross further disclosed:

analyzing the character stream before providing the character stream to identify that vendor information is related to the character stream, and instructing the host to return vendor information in the results. [0123]

30. In regard to claim 27, 73, Gross further disclosed:

identifying yellow page information related to the character stream. [0123]

31. In regard to claim 28, 50, 74, 93, Gross further disclosed:

identifying a category and a location appearing in the character stream.

[0123-0124]

32. In regard to claim 29, 51, 75, 94, Gross further disclosed:

analyzing the character stream for a messaging label appearing in the character stream. [0150]

33. In regard to claim 30, Gross further disclosed:

enabling the user to communicate with another user. [0150]

34. In regard to claim 31, 76, Gross further disclosed:

determining that a user identifier appears in the character stream. [0150]

35. In regard to claim 34, 78, Gross further disclosed:

recognizing that an '@' character appears in the character stream. [0142]

36. In regard to claim 35, 79, Gross further disclosed:

storing the results. [0127]

37. In regard to claim 36, 80, Gross further disclosed:

storing results selected by the user. [0127]

38. In regard to claim 37, 81, Gross further disclosed:

receiving, from the user, a second character stream of one or more non-completion characters where the non-completion characters indicate that additional characters may be received; [0130-0131]

accessing stored results; and [0130—131]

relating the stored results to the second character stream. [0130-0131]

39. In regard to claim 38, 82, Gross further disclosed:

displaying the stored results when the second character stream indicates the user is requesting information related to the stored results. [0130-0131]

40. In regard to claim 39, Gross further disclosed:

providing the second character stream to the host to analyze the second character stream to generate second character stream results that are responsive to the user's predictive interest; [0130-0131]

receiving the second character stream results; and [0130-0131]

displaying the second character stream results. [01330-0131]

41. In regard to claim 40, 83, Gross further disclosed:

validating Uniform Resource Locators (URLs) in the character stream.

[0135]

42. In regard to claim 48, Gross further disclosed:

analyze the character stream to determine a user profile; [0127]

store the user profile; and [0127]

use the user profile to analyze subsequent character streams. [0130]

43. In regard to claim 96, 98, Gross further disclosed:

using the web browser to receive the character stream of one or more non-completion characters, representing characters the user types before entering a completion character. [0135]

44. In regard to claims 97, 99, Gross further disclosed:

using the web browser to receive the character stream of one or more non-completion characters, representing character the user types before entering a carriage return. [0135]

45. In regard to claim 100, Gross further disclosed:

the first and the second web application are each a web application selected from a group of web applications comprising a web mapping application, a directory application, a web search application, a keyword application, a stock quote application, a calendar application, a virtual phone application, a messaging application, and a web email application. [0035], [0037]

See further Wolton, [0739]. CGI interfaces are also referred to as CGI "maps" by one of ordinary skill in the art.

46. In regard to claim 101, Gross disclosed:

the first web application is a web mapping application and the second web application is a web search application. [0035], [0037] See further Wolton, [0739]. CGI interfaces are also referred to as CGI "maps" by one of ordinary skill in the art.

47. Claims 9-10, 46-47, 58-59, and 89-90 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gross in view of Wolton and in further view of Boss et al. (US 6,157,618).

48. In regard to claims 9-10, 46-47, 58-59, and 89-90, Gross and Wolton failed to disclose a time out condition for aborting searching. Boss did disclose the use of an elapsed time procedure to note when a connection should be terminated based upon non-use. Boss, column 7, lines 20-54. Gross establishes a connection to the search engine that operates as the user types updated characters. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to use a time out with Gross in view of Wolton in order to prevent keeping a connection open longer than necessary, thus saving bandwidth.

49. Claims 23-25 and 69-71 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gross in view of Wolton in further view of Bourquin (US 5,799,284).

50. In regard to claims 23-25 and 69-71, Gross in view of Wolton fails to disclose searching of addresses by city, state or zip code. Bourquin discloses the searching of addresses by city, state or ZIP was well known in the art at the time of Bourquin's invention (1996). Bourquin, column 1, lines 36-40. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to search for a business by city, state or zip code using Gross's invention in view of Wolton's file extensions in order to get localized content.

51. Claims 32-33 and 77 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gross in view of Wolton in further view of Aravamudan et al (US 6,301,609).

52. In regard to claims 32-33 and 77, Gross in view of Wolton failed to disclose the use of an instant messaging application being able to detect the online status of a user. However, Aravamudan disclosed the use of a presence server to detect whether a user was online and to send the user an instant message. Aravamudan, column 7, lines 21-40. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have added the instant messaging capabilities of Aravamudan with Gross in view of Wolton in order to allow for a unified messaging system between users. Aravamudan, column 2, lines 25-49.

Conclusion

53. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

54. Yamamoto et al. US 2002/0138650

55. Austin US 2002/0059401

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffrey R. Swearingen whose telephone number is (571)272-3921. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Larry Donaghue can be reached on 571-272-3933. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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